

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Withdrawn-Rejoin) A belt tensioning device for a belt drive having at least two belt pulleys and a continuous belt, the belt tensioning device comprising:

a torsion spring assembly with a longitudinal axis ( $A_2$ );

a tensioning arm which, at one end, is arranged at the torsion spring assembly so as to be aligned approximately radially relative to the longitudinal axis ( $A_2$ );  
and

a tensioning roller rotatably arranged at the other end of the tensioning arm, wherein an axis of rotation ( $A_1$ ) of the tensioning roller extends substantially parallel relative to the longitudinal axis ( $A_2$ ) of the torsion spring assembly and wherein the tensioning arm can be resiliently supported relative to the rack so as to oscillate around the longitudinal axis ( $A_2$ );

~~A device according to claim 1, wherein the torsion spring assembly comprises a plurality of individual torsion bars which, by being clamped together at their ends, form a bundle and are in line contact or surface contact with one another.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 2 comprising a damping unit articulated at the tensioning arm and supported at the rack.

4. (Withdrawn-Rejoin) A device according to claim 2, wherein the bundle of torsion bars is clamped in at a first end of the torsion spring assembly in a fixing bush.

5. (Withdrawn-Rejoin-Previously Presented) A device according to claim 4, wherein the bundle of torsion bars is clamped in at a second end of the torsion spring assembly in another bush which is connected in a rotationally ~~fast~~ fixed way to the one end of the tensioning arm.

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